

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (canceled).

Claim 3 (previously presented): The adsorbent material of claim 13 where the divinylbenzene copolymer comprises 50 weight % to 85 weight % of isomeric divinylbenzene and 5 weight % to 40 weight % of isomeric ethylvinylbenzene.

Claims 4-5 (canceled).

Claim 6 (previously presented): The adsorbent of claim 13 comprising predominantly spherical particles having a particle size from 50 μm to 200 μm .

Claim 7 (previously presented): A method of suspension polymerization to produce the adsorbent material of claim 13 where the aqueous phase comprises 5 weight % to 25 weight % of a salt and 0.5 weight % to 5 weight % of a suspension stabilizer, the organic phase comprises 25 weight % to 50 weight % of an inert substance, and the polymerization is conducted in the presence of air and/or oxygen.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The method of claim 7 where the inert substance comprises toluene, ethyl acetate, butyl acetate, dichlorethane, or carbon tetrachloride, exclusively.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method of claim 7 where the suspension stabilizer comprises poly(vinyl alcohol) or methyl cellulose or hydroxyethyl cellulose or calcium phosphate or aluminium hydroxide or magnesium hydroxide.

Claims 10-12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (currently amended): An adsorbent material, based on crosslinked, porous imidazole-divinylbenzene copolymers, for application in blood-, blood plasma-, and albumin purification processes, said adsorbent material being formed by radical suspension polymerization of a monomer mixture of divinylbenzene crosslinker and an imidazole derivative, wherein

the polymerization is conducted in the presence of air and/or oxygen, a salt, a stabilizer, and an inert substance;

the adsorbent material contains 5 weight % to 30 weight % of the imidazole derivative;

the adsorbent material has a specific surface from 200 m²/g to 900 m²/g and a total pore volume from 1.0 cm³/g to 2.0 cm³/g

where 1 g of the material contains up to 0.3 cm³ micropores, up to 1.2 cm³ mesopores, and up to 0.5 cm³ macropores; and

the adsorbent material is essentially of spherical shape having a particle size range from 1 µm to 300 µm and an average pore diameter in the range of 100 Å to 500 Å.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The adsorbent material of claim ± 13 where the radically polymerizable imidazole derivative are 1-vinylimidazole, 4-vinylimidazole, 1-vinyl-2-methylimidazole, 1-vinyl-2-ethylimidazole, 1-propenyl-2-imidazole, 1-allyl-2-methylimidazole, exclusively or mixtures thereof, or an unsubstituted imidazole monomer.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The adsorbent of claim ± 13 comprising predominantly spherical particles having a particle size from 1 µm to 50 µm.

Claim 16 (previously presented): The method of claim 7 where the inert substance comprises a mixture of at least two inert substances selected from the group consisting of toluene, ethyl acetate, butyl acetate, dichlorethane, and carbon tetrachloride.

Claim 17 (currently amended): A method of blood purification in plasma- or blood purification processes comprising:

(a) providing an adsorbent material based on crosslinked, porous imidazole-divinylbenzene copolymers, said adsorbent material being formed by specific radical suspension polymerization of a monomer mixture in the presence of air and/or oxygen, a salt, and an inert substance, said adsorbent material comprising at least 50 weight percent divinylbenzene crosslinker and 4 to 30 weight percent of an imidazole derivative, said adsorbent material being highly crosslinked and highly porous, said adsorbent material having a spherical shape and specific characteristics of surface, pore size distribution, pore diameter, and particle size range, for application in blood-, blood plasma-, and albumin purification processes, where said adsorbent material has an average pore diameter in the range of 100 Å to 500 Å and 1 g of the material contains up to 0.3 cm³ micropores, up to 1.2 cm³ mesopores, and up to 0.5 cm³ macropores; and

(b) applying the adsorbent material to blood or blood plasma.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A method of blood purification comprising:

(a) providing an adsorbent material based on

crosslinked, porous imidazole-divinylbenzene copolymers, said adsorbent material being formed by specific radical suspension polymerization of a monomer mixture in the presence of air and/or oxygen, a salt, and an inert substance, said adsorbent material comprising at least 50 weight percent divinylbenzene crosslinker and 4 to 30 weight percent of an imidazole derivative, said adsorbent material being highly crosslinked and highly porous, said adsorbent material having a spherical shape and specific characteristics of surface, pore size distribution, pore diameter, and particle size range, for application in blood-, blood plasma-, and albumin purification processes, where said adsorbent material has an average pore diameter in the range of 100 Å to 500 Å and 1 g of the material contains up to 0.3 cm³ micropores, up to 1.2 cm³ mesopores, and up to 0.5 cm³ macropores; and

(b) applying the adsorbent material to blood in a Molecular Adsorbent Recirculating System (MARS).

Claim 19 (currently amended): A method of blood purification comprising:

(a) providing an adsorbent material based on crosslinked, porous imidazole-divinylbenzene copolymers, said adsorbent material being formed by specific radical suspension polymerization of a monomer mixture in the presence of air and/or oxygen, a salt, and an inert substance, said adsorbent material

comprising at least 50 weight percent divinylbenzene crosslinker and 4 to 30 weight percent of an imidazole derivative, said adsorbent material being highly crosslinked and highly porous, said adsorbent material having a spherical shape and specific characteristics of surface, pore size distribution, pore diameter, and particle size range, for application in blood-, blood plasma-, and albumin purification processes, where said adsorbent material has an average pore diameter in the range of 100 Å to 500 Å and 1 g of the material contains up to 0.3 cm³ micropores, up to 1.2 cm³ mesopores, and up to 0.5 cm³ macropores; and

(b) applying the adsorbent material to blood as a sorbent for bilirubin and bile acids.